

PTO/SB/09A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0531-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<p>Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.</p> <p>Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>File as many sheets as necessary.</p>																			
		<p><b>Complete If Known</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/082183</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>February 25, 2002</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>S. ISHIHARA et al</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>2675 2814</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>S. Kishimoto MALL H. ARGUELLO</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Attorney Docket Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sheet</td> <td>1</td> <td>of</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/082183	Filing Date	February 25, 2002	First Named Inventor	S. ISHIHARA et al	Art Unit	2675 2814	Examiner Name	S. Kishimoto MALL H. ARGUELLO	Attorney Docket Number		Sheet	1	of	1
Application Number	10/082183																		
Filing Date	February 25, 2002																		
First Named Inventor	S. ISHIHARA et al																		
Art Unit	2675 2814																		
Examiner Name	S. Kishimoto MALL H. ARGUELLO																		
Attorney Docket Number																			
Sheet	1	of	1																

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Case No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code <sup>1</sup> -Number <sup>2</sup> -Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
<i>Am</i>		JP-A-10-222377	08/14/98		(re) USP 6,739,545	
		JP-A-2001-230088	08/01/01		(re) USP 6,810,374	
		EP 1078388 A2	02/14/2001	Hama et al	(re) JP-A-2001-522781	
<u>1</u>		JP-A-2000-178788	08/23/2000	Tsutomu et al		Ab
		JP 09-310289	11/04/1994	S. Shibaem		AB

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw the through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 601.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.1). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 15 is possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.